CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

STATE CAPITOL Room 3120 SACRAMENTO, CA 95814 (916) 319-2006

FAX (916) 319-2106

DISTRICT OFFICE

3501 Civic Center Drive Suite 412 San Rafael, CA 94903 (415) 479-4920 FAX (415) 479-2123



lared Huffman ASSEMBLYMEMBER, 6TH DISTRICT

CHAIR. Water Parks and Wildlife

COMMITTEES

Natural Resources **Utilities & Commerce Assembly Budget Committee** Subcommittee No. 3 on Resources

http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a06

March 3, 2010

A.G. Kawamura, Secretary California Department of Food and Agriculture 1220 N Street, Room 400 Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Secretary Kawamura:

I have become aware that the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) released the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) regarding the Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM) Eradication Program on February 26, 2010. Although you have the authority to certify the FEIR as early as March 4, 2010, ten days after its release, I urge you not to do this.

As you know, my constituents have been very vocal about CDFA's LBAM Eradication efforts and have raised serious questions regarding the program. Given the significant concerns in this community about the LBAM Eradication Program, it would be a detriment to the public if you rush to certify the FEIR. In fact, I respectfully request that you hold public hearings in all of the communities affected by the LBAM Eradication Program prior to your final consideration of its certification.

My staff and I are in the process of reviewing the voluminous FEIR to better understand how CDFA responded to concerns from Marin and Sonoma Counties and CDFA's ultimate plans for the LBAM program including plans for aerial spray. I want to make sure that CDFA complies with my law, AB 2765, which created strict new requirements that must be met before CDFA can propose aerial pesticide spraying as part of the eradication program.

Our community and the other affected communities should have the opportunity to weigh in on this FEIR before it is certified, and I appreciate your attention to this important community issue.

Sincerely,

JARED HUFFMAN

Assemblymember, 6th District